

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

In re: ) Chapter 7  
)  
CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY CO., ) No. 15-23220  
)  
Debtor, )  
) Honorable Deborah L. Thorne  
)  
) **Hearing Date: December 18, 2018**  
) **Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.**  
) **Room No.: 613**

**COVER SHEET FOR SECOND AND FINAL FEE APPLICATION  
AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**

Name of Applicant: Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C.

Authorized to Provide Professional Services to: Frances F. Gecker, Chapter 7 Trustee of the Estate of CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY CO.

Period for Which Compensation is Sought: July 22, 2017 through August 10, 2018

Amount of Fees Sought: \$ 7,705.80

Amount of Expense Reimbursement Sought: \$ 67.13

This is a: Second and Final Fee Application

The aggregate amount of fees and expenses *paid* to the Applicant to date for services rendered and expenses incurred herein is: \$15,391.79.

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
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In re:	)	Chapter 7
	)	
CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY CO.,	)	No. 15-23220
	)	
Debtor.	)	
	)	Honorable Deborah L. Thorne
	)	
	)	<b>Hearing Date: December 18, 2018</b>
	)	<b>Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.</b>
	)	<b>Room No.: 613</b>

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on **December 18, 2018**, at **10:00 a.m.**, soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, I shall appear before the Honorable Deborah L. Thorne in her usual Courtroom No. 613, in the Dirksen Federal Courthouse, 219 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, or in her absence, before any other judge who may be sitting in her place or stead, and shall then and there present **Second and Final Application of Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C. as Accountant to Frances Gecker, Chapter 7 Trustee of the Bankruptcy Estate of CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY CO., for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses.**

Dated: November 16, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES GECKER, solely as Chapter 7 Trustee  
of the estate of CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS  
SUPPLY COMPANY

By: /s/ Micah R. Krohn

One of her attorneys

Micah R. Krohn (ARDC No. 6217264)  
**FrankGecker LLP**  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

<b>IN RE:</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Champaign Builders Supply Company</b>	)	<b>No. 15 B 23220</b>
	)	
	)	<b>Chapter 7</b>
<b>Debtor</b>	)	
	)	<b>Hon. Deborah L. Thorne</b>

**SECOND AND FINAL APPLICATION  
OF ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES**

**ALAN D. LASKO AND ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. ("ADLPC")**, Certified Public Accountants, request second and final compensation of \$7,705.80 and expenses of \$67.13 for the time period from July 22, 2017 through August 10, 2018. A detail is provided herein for the Estate, which identifies by subject matter the services performed by the Applicant. Additional detail is provided to reflect the function and individual performing said services. Lastly, each individual's classification and hourly rate is also reflected. In addition, attached is the Affidavit pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2016.

**INTRODUCTION**

This Court has jurisdiction over this Second and Final Fee Application pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

**CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY COMPANY**

The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are Sections 328, 330 and 331 of Title 11 of the United States Code (11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532, the "Bankruptcy Code"), as supplemented by Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), Rule 5082-1 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois (the "Local Rules"), the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 promulgated by the United States Department of Justice, dated on January 30, 1996 (the "UST Guidelines").

Under Rule 2016(b), the Firm has not shared, nor agreed to share, (a) any compensation it has received or may receive in these cases with another person or party other than the Firm's associates, and other employees, or (b) any compensation another person or party has received or may receive in these cases.

**GENERAL**

The Debtor filed a petition under Chapter 7 on or about July 7, 2015. A Trustee was subsequently appointed. On November 17, 2016, Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C. was approved by the Court as the accountants for the Trustee. Reflected in this fee petition is the Applicant's time for the preparation of the Estate's information tax returns and work relating to working with the Internal Revenue Service concerning the late file penalties for the years 2013 and 2015 and an Internal Revenue Service examination for the tax year 2015.

**FEE APPLICATION**

The fees sought by this Second and Final Fee Application reflect an aggregate of 29.5 hours of ADLPC's time spent and recorded in performing services during the Second and Final Compensation Period. This fee request does not include time that might be construed as duplicative or otherwise not beneficial to the Trustee or the Debtor's Estate, which has already been eliminated by ADLPC. In accordance with the factors enumerated in Section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, the amount of fees requested is fair and reasonable given: (a) the complexity of this case, (b) the time expended, (c) the nature and extent of the services rendered (d), the value of such services, and (e) the costs of comparable services other than in a case under the Bankruptcy Code.

All of the services for which second and final compensation is sought were rendered solely in connection with this case, in furtherance of the duties and functions of the Trustee and not on behalf of any individual creditor or other person.

ADLPC has not entered into any agreement, express or implied, with any other party for the purpose of fixing or sharing fees or other compensation to be paid for professional services rendered in this case.

ADLPC has not shared, or agreed to share (a) any compensation it has received or may receive with another party or person, other than with the associates of the Firm, or (b) any compensation another person or party has received or may receive. No promises have been received by ADLPC as to compensation in connection with this case other than in accordance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

### **BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORIES**

The categories in this Application as listed below:

### **BILLING**

The Applicant has incurred 1.2 hours in the preparation of this fee Application.

Cost \$125.00

A recap of compensation for this category is as follows:

	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A. Lasko	0.2	\$ 300.00	\$ 60.00
C. Wilson, Staff	<u>1.0</u>	65.00	<u>65.00</u>
	<u>1.2</u>		<u>\$ 125.00</u>

### **TAX PREPARATION**

The Applicant incurred 1.9 hours in the preparation of the Estate's information tax returns and determining that no returns needed to be filed for 2017.

Cost \$233.60

A recap of compensation for this category is as follows:

	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
K. Seyller, Senior (Post 05/01/18)	0.3	\$ 210.00	\$ 63.00
K. Seyller, Senior (Pre 05/01/18)	0.2	170.00	34.00
D. Stefanczuk, Staff (Post 05/01/18)	1.2	98.00	117.60
D. Stefanczuk, Staff (Pre 05/01/18)	<u>0.2</u>	95.00	<u>19.00</u>
	<u>1.9</u>		<u>\$ 233.60</u>

**CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY COMPANY**

**RESPOND TO TAX AUTHORITIES**

The Applicant incurred 26.4 hours preparing responses to the Internal Revenue Service regarding the S Corporation's tax years 2013 and 2015 late file penalties. Additional time was incurred in trying to work with the prior accountant regarding past notices on this issue and the basis for their responses. In addition to the above, the Applicant has worked with the Internal Revenue Service regarding the late file penalties for tax year 2015 only to discover that the Internal Revenue Service indicated that the 2014 amended tax return and 2015 return was in examination. The Internal Revenue Service then changed to only examine the Debtor's 2015 return. A hold was placed on the account. The year 2013 late file penalty (the Debtor's return) could not be waived. The 2015 late file penalty upon appeal was reduced. The Internal Revenue Service then indicated that an unapplied tax deposit was on file and those monies would pay the remaining late file penalty at no further cost to the Estate. The Estate will receive approximately a \$900 refund. Last, the Internal Revenue Service examination for tax year 2015 resulted in no change to the return as filed by the Trustee.

Cost \$7,347.20

A recap of compensation for this category is as follows:

	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A. Lasko (2018)	12.6	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,780.00
A. Lasko (2017)	2.2	290.00	638.00
D. Konomidis, Tax Supervisor (2018)	6.6	270.00	1,782.00
D. Konomidis, Tax Supervisor (2017)	4.7	240.00	1,128.00
C. Wilson, Staff	0.3	64.00	19.20
	<u>26.4</u>		<u>\$ 7,347.20</u>

**CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY COMPANY**

The Applicant reflects hourly rates and hours worked by each person by function. The recap also reflects the cost of each function performed. In order to assist the Court and parties in interest to evaluate this fee request, your Applicant has reflected below the range of rates charged by staff level.

Owner	\$290	-	\$300
Manager/Director	260	-	300
Supervisors	190	-	290
Senior	140	-	190
Assistant	65	-	140

To provide an orderly and meaningful summary of the services rendered by ADLPC in accordance with its employment, ADLPC has summarized the services provided by the project billing categories for its second and final fee period are as follows:

Recap by Project	First Interim Application	Second and Final Application	Net
Billing	\$ 278.50	\$ 125.00	\$ 403.50
Tax Preparation	9,447.60	233.60	9,681.20
Respond to Tax Authorities	2,539.60	7,347.20	9,886.80
Amended Return - 2014	3,000.00	-	3,000.00
Net Request	<u>\$ 15,265.70</u>	<u>\$ 7,705.80</u>	<u>\$ 22,971.50</u>



**CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY COMPANY**

<u>Recap by Hour</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Blended Rate</u>
Billing	4.1	\$ 403.50	\$ 98.41
Tax Preparation	64.7	9,681.20	\$ 149.63
Respond to Tax Authorities	36.7	9,886.80	\$ 269.40
Amended Return - 2014 - Net	29.2	3,000.00	\$ 102.74
	<u>134.7</u>	<u>\$ 22,971.50</u>	<u>\$ 170.54</u>

**EXPENSES**

It is the Firm's policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for identifiable, non-overhead expenses incurred in connection with the client's case that would not have been incurred except for representation of that particular client. It is the Firm's policy to charge its client only the amount actually incurred by the Firm in connection with such items. Examples of such expenses are postage, overnight mail, courier delivery, transportation, airfare, meals, and lodging.

	<u>Tax Preparation</u>	<u>Respond to Tax Authorities</u>	<u>Amended Tax Return</u>	<u>First Interim Application</u>	<u>Second and Final Application</u>	<u>Total</u>
Delivery	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ 15.00
Copy Costs	65.50	4.40	18.40	88.30	45.30	133.60
Postage	-	22.79	-	22.79	21.83	44.62
	<u>\$ 80.50</u>	<u>\$ 27.19</u>	<u>\$ 18.40</u>	<u>\$ 126.09</u>	<u>\$ 67.13</u>	<u>\$ 193.22</u>

The Applicant has received its First Interim compensation of \$15,265.70 and expenses of \$126.09 for the time period November 17, 2016 through July 21, 2017.

**ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION**

The foregoing professional services rendered during the Compensation Period were necessary and appropriate to the administration of the Chapter 7 case and was in the best interests of the parties in interest. Compensation for the foregoing services as requested is commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problems, issues, or tasks involved. ADLPC has taken significant efforts to ensure that the professional services were performed with expedience and in an efficient manner and without duplication of effort.

Section 330 provides that a court may award a professional employed under Section 327 of the Bankruptcy Code "reasonable compensation for actual necessary services rendered . . . and reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Section 330 also sets forth the criteria for the award of such compensation and reimbursement:

In determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded, the court should consider the nature, the extent, and the value of such services, taking into account all relevant factors, including.

- (A) the time spent on such services;
- (B) the rates charged for such services;
- (C) whether the services were necessary to the administration of, or beneficial at the time the service was rendered toward the completion of, a case under this title;
- (D) whether the services were performed within a reasonable amount of time commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problem, issue or task addressed; and
- (E) whether the compensation is reasonable based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in cases other than cases under this title.

Id. § 330(a)(3).

In the instant case, ADLPC respectfully submits that the services for which it seeks compensation in this Second and Final Fee Application were necessary for and beneficial to the Trustee's efforts in administering the Debtor's Estate, and necessary to and in the best interests of the Debtor's Estate. ADLPC further submits that the compensation requested herein is reasonable in light of the nature, extent, and value of such services provided to the Trustee and the Debtor's Estate.

The rates charged by ADLPC in this case are standard for any bankruptcy matter, and are identical to the rate it would charge throughout the country in any bankruptcy case of this size and prominence.

In sum, the services rendered by ADLPC were necessary and beneficial to the Debtor's Estate, and were consistently performed in a timely manner commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the issues involved. As shown by this Second and Final Fee Application and supporting exhibits, ADLPC incurred professional time economically and without unnecessary duplication of effort. In addition, the work involved, and thus the time expended, was carefully assigned in view of the experience and expertise required for a particular task. Accordingly, approval of the Second and Final compensation sought herein for the Compensation Period is warranted.

**CHAMPAIGN BUILDERS SUPPLY COMPANY**

**CONCLUSION AND REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

Based upon the foregoing, your Applicant submits that the relief requested is justified in the circumstances and its allowance would be appropriate. Therefore, the requested second and final compensation of \$7,705.80 and expenses of \$67.13 should be allowed for services by your Applicant for the period July 22, 2017 through August 10, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan D. Lasko

Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C.  
205 West Randolph Street  
Suite 1150  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 332-1302

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

<b>IN RE:</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Champaign Builders Supply Company</b>	)	<b>No. 15 B 23220</b>
	)	
	)	<b>Chapter 7</b>
<b>Debtor</b>	)	
	)	<b>Hon. Deborah L. Thorne</b>

**AFFIDAVIT PURSUANT TO BANKRUPTCY RULE 2016**

STATE OF ILLINOIS) )  
 ) )  
COUNTY OF COOK ) )  
 ) )

I, Alan D. Lasko, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and state as follows:

1. I am the owner of the Firm ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. ("Lasko") and I am authorized to execute this Affidavit on behalf of Lasko. Lasko is the Court-approved accountants for Frances Gecker, Chapter 7 Trustee in this case ("Trustee").
2. I have read the Second and Final Application of Lasko, for allowable compensation and expenses ("Application") and all of the factual matters set forth therein are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Lasko has performed the services set forth and described in the Application at the request and pursuant to the direction of the Trustee.
3. Lasko has previously received payments for services rendered in connection with this case from the Trustee. Lasko has not entered into any agreement or understanding between itself and any other person for the sharing of compensation received or to be received for services rendered to the Trustee in connection with these cases, except among the members and associates of the Firm.
4. The Applicant has received its First Interim compensation of \$15,265.70 and expenses of \$126.09 for the time period November 17, 2016 through July 21, 2017.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.



Alan D. Lasko

Subscribed and Sworn to before me  
this 10th day of August, 2018.



Notary Public

